

**MEETING OF THE NUECES RIVER AND CORPUS CHRISTI BAY AND
BAFFIN BAY BASIN AND BAY AREA STAKEHOLDERS COMMITTEE
(NUECES BBASC)
9:00 A.M. ON OCTOBER 21, 2009
GYMNASIUM BUILDING, CALLIHAM UNIT, CHOKE CANYON STATE
PARK
THREE RIVERS, TEXAS**

MINUTES

Call to order and Roll Call

Committee chair Con Mims called the meeting to order. Roll call was taken.

Comments from Texas Commission on Environmental Quality

Cory Horan, TCEQ, discussed the SB3 process, noting that representativeness among the SB3 mandated interest groups was an important part of the process. He noted that one of the key steps in the process was the establishment of the Basin and Bay Expert Science Team (BBEST) by the BBASC members. He discussed SAC activities and the guidance documents the SAC has developed. He noted that the primary use of the guidance documents would be by the BBESTs, but also noted that it would be beneficial for the BBASC members to familiarize themselves with the guidance documents. This will assist the BBEST members in fully understanding the science based environmental flow recommendations that are to be developed by the BBEST. Chairman Mims discussed the intent of the committee to hold meetings throughout the basin in order to familiarize members with the various areas of the basin, ensuring representativeness among those attending and allowing for increased public participation.

Review membership and authorize changes as necessary

Chairman Mims discussed the expanded membership and the interest groups that were represented on the committee. He discussed the committee desire to have members that truly reflected the various interest groups throughout the basin. After a review of those present, the commercial fisheries and electric generation interest groups were not present. The group agreed that there was a need for those interests to be represented. The committee chairs will seek out potential members to fill these gaps.

At this point member Ray Allen, Coastal Bend Bays and Estuaries Program (CBBEP) gave an update on the Rincon Bayou Salinity study.

Approve Meeting Rules

The members then discussed the draft meeting rules prepared by the chairs and distributed to members prior to the meeting. After discussion the members approved by consensus the meeting rules as drafted with the caveat that they can be amended by majority vote.

Discuss the responsibilities, composition, funding, and establishment of the Basin and Bay Expert Science Team (BBEST)

Cory Horan discussed the statutory requirements and the roles and responsibilities of the Basin and Bay Expert Science Teams. It was noted that staff from the three resource

agencies, the TCEQ, TWDB, and TWPD, would be non-voting members of the BBEST and would provide both technical and administrative support. The members then discussed the areas of expertise to be represented on the BBEST. By consensus the committee agreed to form a subcommittee comprised of members Wes Tunnel, Ray Allen, Dr. Jim Gallagher and Harry Shulz, with James Dodson serving as chair of this subcommittee. This subcommittee will develop a list of the needed expertise and potential candidates to meet those needs, as well as come up with a recommended number for the size of the BBEST. The subcommittee will report back to the group for discussion and approval of the recommended BBEST candidates.

Establish a preliminary BBASC work schedule

The committee discussed topics for upcoming meetings and meeting locations. Topics to be discussed are:

- Report of the BBEST subcommittee and consideration and discussion of potential candidates.
- Report on the agreed order establishing the NEAC
- Other topics relating to lower basin characteristics

It was noted that time and travel for BBASC members is not eligible for reimbursement.

Discuss time and location for next meeting

The group agreed to hold the next meeting in the lower part of the basin, specifically Corpus Christi, TX. The meeting will begin at 10:00 at the Harte Research Institute, pending confirmation of room availability.

Adjourn